

# Connecting *Loudoun*

## Linking Volunteers With Opportunities



*A Message from Leigh Ann Macklin, President,  
2004-05 Loudoun Volunteer Services Board*

You may have heard about Loudoun Volunteer Services' new website,

[www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm) linked to [www.1-800-volunteer.org](http://www.1-800-volunteer.org). This website is a valuable resource for both non-profit agencies and those interested in volunteering their time to help address the needs of the community.

If you are a non-profit organization and have already registered on the website, thank you; we hope that you have benefited from this service. If you have not yet registered, we would like to invite you to do so today, so we can begin to better assist you in connecting with volunteers. For help with registering, please call Lisa Rose in the public information office at 703-777-0113, or email her at [pivs@loudoun.gov](mailto:pivs@loudoun.gov).

If you would like to volunteer, but aren't sure where to begin, please register on the website today. There has never been a better time to serve and improve your community. Volunteering brings out the best in everyone. It's a great way to spend free time, a rewarding way to meet new

friends and professional contacts, and a way to learn new skills.

Please email me if you have any questions or comments about Loudoun Volunteer Services or volunteering; I'd like to hear from you at [leighannmacklin@yahoo.com](mailto:leighannmacklin@yahoo.com).

Also, I'd like to thank Leon Evans, our former LVSB President, for his years of service to Loudoun County. We miss Leon and wish him well in his new position with the Town of Vienna!

### Volunteer-Match Website

The volunteer-match website is a service of the Points of Light Foundation and corporately sponsored by Dominion Power. LVS is promoting this valuable tool to effectively engage more people in volunteer service and to help address the needs of the community.

More than 100 volunteers and 60 organizations have already registered through the site. To register for this free service, simply go to [www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm) and click on "register your organization's volunteer opportunities," or if you are a volunteer click on "looking for volunteer opportunities."

## Student Volunteers Honored

Kevin Hayba and 31 other students from Loudoun Valley High School were honored as Student Volunteers of the Month. Kevin served as Trip Leader for a project organized through “Won by One to Jamaica,” a non-profit Christian organization in Pennsylvania.

During the 2002-2003 school-year Loudoun Valley High School raised \$1,100 at its annual school auction and collected school supplies to help the students of Harmons All Age School in Jamaica. It had been the dream of then-Principal Ken Culbert to establish a partnership with Harmons, after learning of the remote Jamaican village. Although most of the students there had never seen a computer, the Harmons school principal dreamed of using the donation to construct a computer lab.

In memory of the late Mr. Culbert, a team of 39 Loudoun Valley High School students, parents and faculty traveled to Jamaica from July 7 through July 15, 2004, to construct the Culbert Computer Lab, provide needed repairs to the school, build a house, distribute clothing and medication, and interact with the local Jamaicans.

Accompanying the team to Jamaica were 22 computers, 117 pieces of luggage, and \$45,000 in cash and checks. Each team member had raised \$1,200 to cover their individual expenses and filled their limit of luggage with school supplies, medicines, shoes, toiletries, small tools, linens, sewing notions, kitchen utensils, batteries and soccer balls.

Working with his older sister Erin, who served as mission manager for the project, Kevin Hayba took the reins as Trip Leader in December 2003 to solicit student interest in the project and organize the effort. Kevin dedicated approxi-



mately 8 to 10 hours a week throughout the remainder of the school year making phone calls, writing letters and speaking to organizations to solicit donations, responding to questions, supporting other fund-raising efforts and addressing organizational issues.

Beyond providing the direct support to Harmons, it was also envisioned-as stated in one of Kevin's letters-that team members would, as a result of participating in the project, “change the way they live and desire to help and serve those around them.” Kevin believes that “the trip went well, and I think everyone had a meaningful experience. But I also think that each team member was changed by the trip, whether it was religiously or the way they look at the world.”

The Won by One Team included the following students: Thomas Adams, Trevor Albro, Brock Bell, Shannon Bowe, Robert Brower, Jessica Burke, Stevan Cahan, Kevin Culbert, Sarah Culbert, Tricia Curto, Brian Damewood, Regina Driscoll, Audrey Flemming, Katie Foy, Patrick Godfrey, Erin Hayba, Kevin Hayba, Peter Jarvis, Amanda Juraschek, Sean Keim, Andy Maddux, Lee McPeak, Nathan Milam, Samantha Mizerak, Shaelyn Mullaney, Wes Nease, Nathan Rathjen, Aaron Rodriguez-McCleary, Taylor O'Connor, Thomas Schonder, Casey Lee Sullivan, and Katherine Turner.

# Shining Stars

## Nominate a Student Volunteer

Loudoun Volunteer Services gives special recognition to students who give their time to the community in an extraordinary way.

If you would like to nominate an outstanding student volunteer or group of volunteers, send a paragraph describing the student's volunteer efforts to Lisa Rose, Volunteer Coordinator, Loudoun Volunteer Services Board at [pivs@loudoun.gov](mailto:pivs@loudoun.gov) or mail to P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000, or fax to 703-771-5841.

To learn more about Loudoun Volunteer Services visit [www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/pio/volunteer.htm).

## Kristin Ober of Harmony Intermediate Selected as Student Volunteer of the Month



*Loudoun County Community Relations Manager Robin Geiger, right, presents the Student Volunteer of the Month award to Kristin Ober. At left is Harmony Intermediate School Principal Sherron Gladden.*

Loudoun Volunteer Services has selected Kristin Ober of Harmony Intermediate School as Student Volunteer of the Month for January.

Kristin's volunteer

service has included work at the Franklin Park Performing and Visual Arts Center as a theater apprentice and rehearsal assistant. During last year's production of Twelfth Night, Kristin duties included helping with props and costumes, and assisting the actors in learning their lines.

"We are so proud to have Kristin as a student at Harmony Intermediate School," said Principal Sherron Gladden when Loudoun County Community Relations Manager Robin Geiger presented Kristin with her award at the school.

## Loudoun Valley High's Najiba Alami Recognized for Volunteering

Najiba Alami was named September Student Volunteer of the Month by the Loudoun Volunteer Services Board.

Najiba, a student at Loudoun Valley High School, was instrumental in coordinating with her peers a pre-Thanksgiving dinner to the downtown Purcellville group-home residents. For Christmas she crocheted scarves for the residents, allowing

them to choose their own color and size, and personally delivered them with homemade cards. Najiba prepared Valentine cards for the soldiers in Iraq and continues to stay active in her community while successfully maintaining her academics.

"Najiba is a beautiful, talented young lady, always looking for ways to improve the world by assisting those around her," said Sallie Street, who nominated her for the award. "She's a fabulous role model, well-liked and respected by those who are fortunate to have her in their lives."



*Loudoun Valley High School Principal Jerry Black presents Najiba Alami with her Student Volunteer of the Month Certificate.*

## Annual Award Program for Outstanding Volunteers!

*Nominate an individual or group whose volunteer services have benefited Loudoun County. Deadline for nominations is March 11, 2005.*

*For more information, go to [www.loudoun.gov/pio/awards.htm](http://www.loudoun.gov/pio/awards.htm) or call 703-777-0113*

# Agency *SPOTLIGHT*

## Friends of Loudoun County Mental Health

Friends of Loudoun County Mental Health is a private non-profit organization which operates in partnership with the Supported Living Services (SLS) of the Loudoun County Mental Health Services. This group advocates for mental health needs throughout Loudoun County, educates the general public about mental illnesses, and raises money to fund its various consumer-focused programs.

Loudoun's Supported Living Services works directly with consumers of the county's programs who are experiencing serious mental illnesses. The organization's programs are highlighted below.

### A Place To Call Home

Our flagship program of rental subsidies for consumers being served by SLS of the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

### In Our Own Voice

A program featuring presentations to public groups - churches, students, civil organizations, psychiatric and law enforcement professionals, etc. - by people who have experienced serious mental illness but are working their way toward recovery. The aim is to increase understanding and reduce stigma of the general public concerning mental illness.

### Representative Payees

A program through which volunteers help mental health consumers manage their monthly Social Security checks.

### Helping Hand

This program helps individual mental health consumers (identified by Supported Living Services) who are facing emergencies that demand special financing.

For more information on Friends of Loudoun County Mental Health, contact Judith Hines at 703-443-1380.

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Loudoun Volunteer Services  
Connecting Loudoun County through  
Leadership, Value and Service

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